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RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 3315
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0391
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RUEHDS/USMISSION USAU ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT AF/S FOR MJWILLS, SHILL
AF/E FOR SHAMILTON, JLIDDLE; AF/RSA FOR LMAZEL
ADDIS ABABA FOR AU MISSION
PARIS, LONDON, BRUSSELS FOR AFRICA WATCHERS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [PGOV](#) [ZI](#) [TZ](#)
SUBJECT: TANZANIA SENDING TEAM OF 50 OBSERVERS TO ZIMBABWE
FOR RUNOFF ELECTION

¶1. (SBU) Tanzania's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ambassador Seif Ali Idd, confirmed to PolCouns June 13 that the Government of Tanzania (GOT) had sent 25 observers to Zimbabwe on June 12 to participate in the SADC observer mission for the upcoming runoff elections in Zimbabwe. In addition, another 25 Tanzanians were scheduled to leave for Harare on June 14. PolCouns inquired whether Tanzania had considered sending even a greater number of election monitors in an effort to deter the continuing violence against the MDC opposition party members. Idd replied that the GOT's strategy continued to be to work quietly to convince other SADC member countries to also send up to 50 observers.

¶2. (SBU) Ambassador Idd agreed that for this next round of elections, SADC's objective must be to ensure that all areas in Zimbabwe, including key rural regions, would be under observation during the run-up to the June 27 polls and on election day itself. "Our goal is to send to Zimbabwe at least 500 observers from SADC, and ideally, the same number from other African Union (AU) members that are not part of SADC." Idd gave assurances that President Kikwete, in his role as the AU Chair, would continue to press AU member states to send as many election monitors as possible to join the observation teams well in advance of June 27th.
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